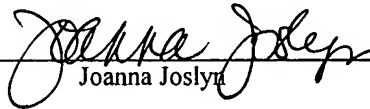




JC02 Rec'd PCT/TT 24 MAR 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In re United States Patent Application of:****Applicant(s): Wilfried Weitzer****Application No.: 10/518,441****Int'l Filing Date: 18 June 2003****Priority Date: 19 June 2002(Austrian Patent  
Application No. A 922/2002)****Title: PANEL ELEMENT COMPRISING A  
CONNECTION SYSTEM****Docket No.: 4121-175****Examiner: Not Yet Assigned****Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned****Customer No.: 23448****FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and First Class Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8.

  
Joanna Joslyn

March 22, 2005

Date of Mailing

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A. One copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marianne Fuierer  
Reg. No. 39,983  
Attorney for Applicant

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/  
TECHNOLOGY LAW**

**Telephone: (919) 419-9350**

**Fax: (919) 419-9354**

**Attorney Ref: 4121-175**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 2

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number	10/518,441
Filing Date	December 17, 2004
First Named Inventor	WEITZER, et al.
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	4121-175

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-6,385,936		05-14-2002	Schneider
	AB	US-6,345,481		02-12-2002	Nelson
	AC	US-6,647,690		11-18-2003	Martensson
	AD	US-4,426,820		01-24-1984	Terbrack, et al.
	AE	US-6,769,219		08-03-2004	Schwitte, et al.
	AF	US-6,804,926		10-19-2004	Eisermann
	AG	US-6,505,452		01-14-2003	Hannig, et al.
	AH	US-6,006,486		12-28-1999	Moriau, et al.
	AI	US-2002050114			
	AJ	US-2002178681			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Examiner signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<sup>1</sup> All the foreign patents and publications that are not written in English language are accompanied by their respective English abstracts, which constitute concise explanation of relevance of the non-English patents and publications that satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i), according to MPEP 609 III A(3).

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 2 of 2

*COMPLETE IF KNOWN*

Application Number	10/518,441
Filing Date	December 17, 2004
First Named Inventor	WEITZER, Wilfried
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	4121-175

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date <i>MM-DD-YYYY</i>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation	
					YES	NO <sup>1</sup>
	AK	DE 8134756		Traub, et al.		X
	AL	DE 4242530		Friedl, et al.		X
	AM	EP 1026341A2		Unilin Beheer B.V.	X	
	AN	GB 2117813 A		Ostrovsky, et al.	X	
	AO	DE 20121196U1		Kronotec AG		X
	AP	WO 02/24421 A1		Steinwender		X
	AQ	DE 10120062A1		Kronotec AG		X
	AR	WO 01/88307		Societe Europeenne DE Laquage et de Faconnage Self		X
	AS	DE 20008708 U1		Kronospan Technical Co., Ltd.		X
	AT	WO 01/48332 A1		Kronospan Technical Co., Ltd.		X
	AU	DE 19933343A1		Ledermann GmbH		X
	AV	WO 00/20706		Perstorp Flooring AB	X	
	AW	DE 3343601 A1		Butec Gesellschaft fur Buhnentechnische		X
	AX	DE 10008166 A1		Kronotec AG		X
	AY	DE 19929896A1		Akzenta Paneele + Profile GmbH		X
	AZ	EP 1084318 B1		Valinge Aluminium	X	

Examiner  
signature

Date  
Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<sup>1</sup> All the foreign patents and publications that are not written in English language are accompanied by their respective English abstracts, which constitute concise explanation of relevance of the non-English patents and publications that satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i), according to MPEP 609 III A(3).